

## Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

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## PSC sets public meetings in Water Service Corp. case Comments on proposed rate increase taken in Middlesboro, Clinton

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Aug. 4, 2009) – The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold public meetings next week in Middlesboro and Clinton to receive comments on a request for a rate increase by Water Service Corp. of Kentucky.

"This meeting will allow the PSC to hear directly from the public as it prepares to consider whether the proposed new rates are fair, just and reasonable," PSC Chairman David Armstrong said.

The meetings are scheduled for:

## Middlesboro

Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2009, 5:30 p.m. EDT Middlesboro Community Center 705 North Petersborough Ave.

## Clinton

Thursday, Aug. 13, 2009, 5 p.m. CDT 2nd Floor Courtroom Hickman County Courthouse, Clinton

Water Service's application and related documents are available on the <u>PSC Web</u> site. The case number is 2008-00563.

Water Service Corp. has about 8,000 customers in Hickman and Bell counties. The PSC is holding the public meetings in response to requests from the company's customers and elected officials.

Water Service Corp. has proposed to increase its rates by about 51 percent. In the Clinton service area in Hickman County, the average monthly residential water bill would increase by \$11.59, from \$22.81 to \$34.40, a figure that includes school taxes. The sewer rates in Clinton, where the sewer system is operated by Water Service Corp. under a contract with the city, are not part of the rate case.

For Water Service Corp. customers in Middlesboro in Bell County, the average monthly residential bill would increase by \$8.02, from \$15.80 to \$23.82.

In its application, Water Service Corp. said it needs additional revenue to pay for system improvements and modernization of its customer service and billing systems.

Persons wishing to comment on the proposed rate increase may do so at the meeting. Depending on the number of people wishing to speak, the length of oral comments may be limited.

Written comments will be accepted at the meeting. Written comments also may be mailed to the PSC at P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, KY 40602, faxed to 502-564-9625 or e-mailed from the PSC Web site.

The evidentiary hearing in the case, at which Water Service Corp. will appear before the PSC, will be held at the PSC offices in Frankfort on Wednesday, Aug. 19, beginning at 10 a.m. EDT. It will be open to the public, but there will be only limited opportunity for public comments. Written comments will be accepted through the conclusion of the hearing.

The evidentiary hearing may be viewed live on the PSC Web site.

The PSC is an independent agency attached for administrative purposes to the Energy and Environment Cabinet. It regulates more than 1,500 gas, water, sewer, electric and telecommunication utilities operating in Kentucky and has approximately 100 employees.